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13 September 1965

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Current Intelligence
THROUGH : Chief, Sino-Soviet Bloc Area
FROM : Chief, China and Asian Satellites Division
SUBJECT : Preliminary Evaluation of [] Mission 25X1
C485C Flown on 5 September 1965

1. This mission was flown over northeastern North Vietnam and southern Yunnan Province in Communist China. Several important military installations were covered but substantial cloud reduced the overall success of the mission. 25X1

3. The Chinese Communists are improving the routes into northern North Vietnam. A new, possibly masonry, bridge over the Panlung Chiang (River) was detected in the Sino-DRV border area near Ha Giang. The roads to this bridge have been improved both in Communist China and North Vietnam. The bridge provides a crossing point from Ha Giang and North Vietnamese national route 2 to Wenshan in Communist China and the Chinese road network in the area. Approximately 25 cargo trucks were noted parked a short distance northwest of the bridge. There is a relatively large barracks area at Wenshan with at least 165 barracks and other support buildings. The Mali-po supply depot is also located on the road to Wenshan between Wenshan

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and Ha Giang. The road from Ha Giang to Mali-po appears to be near completion and road construction north from Mali-po to Wenshan continues. There is no evidence in the photography, however, of a troop or logistical build-up in this area at this time.

4. An 18 mile segment of the Kunming-Mengtzu road was also covered. Approximately 60 trucks were noted--4 heading north and 9 heading south. The direction of travel of the others could not be determined because of poor quality photography. Since the bombing of North Vietnamese section of Hanoi-Kunming railroad in mid-July rail traffic over this line has ceased. This may account for this road traffic. The Chinese Communist 38th Division is located at Mengtzu, as is a major Chinese airfield.

5. The Pinghsiang railroad classification yards were again photographed. The large number of AAA weapons and associated equipment observed there on [redacted] were no longer in evidence. This equipment probably continued on into North Vietnam.

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6. The important airfield at Mengtzu was photographed. There were 26 MIG-15/17 types identified and four others believed to be MIG 15/17s. The official order-of-battle carries 31 MIG-15/17 and 2 MIG-21s at this field. All of the major airfields in the immediate Sino-DRV border area have now been covered since 24 August except Kunming and Suihsi.

7. Several other barracks areas and military targets were photographed but nothing of significance was noted.

8. Attached is an air-order-of-battle based on recent photography of selected airfields in the Sino-DRV border area.

Prepared by: [redacted]

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Selected Air-Order-of-Battle

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Nanning	3 MIG-21s	
	23 MIG-19s	
	9 MIG-15/17s	
Ningming	33 MIG-15/17s	
Canton	2 MIG-19s	
	38 MIG-15/17s	
Haikou	2 MIG-19s	
	17 MIG-15/17s	
Lingshui	11 MIG-15/17s	
Hsingning		18 MIG-19s
		39 MIG-15/17s
Mengtzu		30 MIG-15/17s

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